



PROJECT NUMBER: #05-13-PK ISSUE DATE: May 16, 2013
PROJECT NAME: Kirkland PROS Plan

RECORDED BY: Steve Duh
TO: FILE
PRESENT: Michael Cogle – Kirkland Parks & Community Svcs
Sharon Rodman – Green Kirkland Partnership
Katie Cava – Green Kirkland Partnership
Deb Powers – Kirkland Urban Forester
Teresa Swan – Kirkland Planning & Community Development
Ted Marx – Kirkland Parks Board
Adam Jackson – King Co Conservation District
Margaret Schwender – Sustainable Kirkland
Steve Duh – Conservation Technix
Jean Akers – Conservation Technix
Nate Cormier – SvR Design Company

SUBJECT: Stakeholder Session Meeting Notes: Environmental Groups (05/08/13)

Michael welcomed everyone and initiated the meeting. He thanked everyone for their participation and mentioned that the PROS Plan update will link with other city planning efforts underway this year, including the Comprehensive Plan, the Cross Kirkland Plan and other specific site plans.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Steve provided a brief overview of the PROS Plan project and introduced his team. He highlighted the elements of the planning process for the Plan and noted a set of questions that were the focus this session's discussion.

DISCUSSION / COMMENTS

- There are good choices across the city for a variety of play opportunities.
- Understanding the current state of the city's urban forest requires a look at quantity and quality. Public tree inventories are outdated and do not include the annexed neighborhoods. The Green Kirkland Partnership has made improvements to several natural areas, but more work is needed. An urban forestry canopy goal of 40% was written into comprehensive plan based on an older Puget Sound study. Annexation has allowed the city to meet its canopy coverage goal. A recent canopy assessment shows progress on this goal and includes data by watershed, land use and parcel. The 40% canopy goal may be reassessed in the pending comprehensive plan update to refine the policy and possibly segment the goal by land type or other use classifications.
- Stormwater is a concern, especially in the Finn Hill and North Juanita areas. How is the tree removal allowance going to affect stormwater management? The city is planting trees in stormwater management areas and restoration sites; this is a good program. Can the city do more in this area?
- What are the corridors for wildlife through Kirkland's open spaces and what animals are present? The Audubon Society has lists of birds and some mammals on a site-by-site basis, but this information is not available on a park system-wide basis. The Bridal Trails State Park contributes to habitat for coyotes and

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rabbits, and the landfill site on the south side of the city has been an ongoing issue regarding nuisance pests.

- Regarding the 33-acre landfill site and transfer station, Little League currently has a lease agreement for its use of the site for ballfields. There had been consideration of the site for a 9-hole executive golf course. The city and county have concerns about the long-term liability for the recreational use of the capped landfill. The adaptable re-use of the landfill is an untapped resource for the city, and the current landfill management practices limit potential habitat value. It is the city's position that the existing activities on the landfill are happenstance, and future remediation, restoration and re-use of the site requires an intentional plan.
- The Audubon Society is under-utilized resource. Juanita Bay is good example.
- Kirkland is designated a Community Wildlife Habitat, the sixth in Washington to receive this honor, by the National Wildlife Federation. The Community Wildlife Habitat team has mapped all of the certified properties, including 5 parks. Restoration projects are coordinated with habitat protection and the seasonal needs of wildlife.
- The restoration of Totem Lake is untapped potential. The Cross Kirkland Corridor is perceived as a potential green connection as a wildlife corridor, for increasing tree canopy and as an edible forest. It connects to 7 parks.
- The perception of "green" walking corridors can extend beyond actual parks and trails to situations such as Park Lane – green space in the street and separation from traffic. There may be opportunities for more green/urban (ROW) spaces and sidewalks. There is a potential to integrate parks & greenway connections and concepts with transportation and public works (comp plan) programming under review this year.
- The 2006 Shoreline Conditions Plan showed that 90% is 'bulk headed' and much of the are has mown lawn to the edge of the water. There is a list of park renovation projects to support shoreline restoration and lake ecology. Private property owners are looking to the city to take the lead on bulkhead removal and shoreline/lake improvements. An intern was hired by Planning to identify grants to help fund shoreline restoration projects. The PROS Plan should address and reinforce the shoreline enhancement program.
- There are environmental concerns about boaters, docks and marina activities. Can they be more sustainable in terms of dock materials or fuel? A structural analysis of City's docks currently is underway.
- Land acquisition can target key protection projects. Finn Hill had a "plan" for green connections.
- The goal is for having parks within a certain distance of every household. A GIS analysis, particularly of new annexation, could reveal oversized lots, canopy coverage, acquisition opportunities, among others. As part of the comprehensive plan update, a land capacity analysis for new annexation is expected from GIS in mid-June and may reveal potential park acquisition and urban forestry canopy preservation areas that can be useful to the PROS planning effort.
- The Green Kirkland Partnership has restoration volunteers at Peter Kirk school – which connects between two parks. The city needs an environmental center for seminars and classes.
- How can we use public lands as venues for public (environmental) education, programs, signage, events,...? Recent survey results highlighted public education and outreach as priorities for urban forestry. Green Kirkland program participants like the interpretive signs with plant identification, process, and

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nature information. Message the stewardship programs. Two-pronged value to help park projects or take-home information for ecological improvements.

- Consider demonstration gardens with native plantings, composting practices, worm bin, etc. Install more kiosks with information about parks and their projects. Work with the school district to include environmental learning gardens in new school projects.
- Use the website to promote environmental volunteer opportunities and share information about community organizations (i.e. help seniors pull blackberries)
- Tap into the Environmental Horticulture program at Lake Washington Institute of Technology to teach people to grown native plants or work with landscape professionals.
- Park rangers give tours at Juanita Bay every Sunday. The rangers are volunteers and offer tours for school groups and support the Audubon with annual bird counts. The program operates on grant funding. Program publicity is through local newspapers, Audubon Society and park kiosks.
- Are there opportunities for more green roofs? What can the city do to incentivize or “credit” green roofs, living walls,..?

Every effort has been made to accurately record this meeting. If any errors or omissions are noted, please provide written response within five days of receipt.

-- *End of Notes* --

cc: Michael Cogle
File



PROJECT NUMBER: #05-13-PK ISSUE DATE: June 6, 2013
PROJECT NAME: Kirkland PROS Plan

RECORDED BY: Steve Duh
TO: FILE
PRESENT: Michael Cogle – Kirkland Parks & Community Svcs
Karen Story - Highlands Neighborhood
Deirdre Johnson- South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails Neighborhood
Katrina Thomas - North Rose Hill Neighborhood
Johanna Palmer - Evergreen Hill (Kingsgate) Neighborhood
Jill Keeney - Everest Neighborhood
Carol Buckingham - Central Houghton Neighborhood
Sue Keller - PB & Highlands Neighborhood
Denise Campbell – Market Neighborhood
Janis Rabuchin - Market Neighborhood
Jeanette Leach - Finn Hill Neighborhood
Steve Duh – Conservation Technix

SUBJECT: Stakeholder Session Meeting Notes: Neighborhood Association Group (06/03/13)

Michael welcomed everyone and initiated the meeting. He thanked everyone for their participation and mentioned that the PROS Plan update will link with other city planning efforts underway this year, including the Comprehensive Plan, the Cross Kirkland Plan and other plans.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Steve provided a brief overview of the PROS Plan project and noted a set of questions that were the focus this session's discussion.

DISCUSSION / COMMENTS

Memories About Being in Kirkland

- Playing in the woods
- Waterfront parks - showcasing the lake and water access
- Pitching at Lee Johnson field under the lights
- Picnics at Juanita Beach Park
- Wandering about and playing - being free to roam
- Talking about how cool/fun the equipment is and having special names for the parks (i.e., castle park)
- Wooded wetlands in Everest Neighborhood
- Going off into the woods and roaming for hours
- Dragging big sticks and having open places for kids run
- Volleyball at Houghton Beach

Stakeholder Session Meeting Notes: Neighborhood Association Group (06/03/13)

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General Comments

- Half of Evergreen Hill is within a private facility (Kingsgate/Queensgate), which has many homeowners associations that are strong with their own parks and pools. The 132nd Square Park is the only park serving the rest of the neighborhood association. Finding additional land will be difficult. Largest lots are near school. Another development of 75 units is going into the neighborhood
- Houghton is extremely fortunate with park spaces. The under-developed sites are neat. Phyllis Needy is a tot lot that sees a lot of use and has a restroom. The Emerson campus has ball fields. Parking is lacking, and the challenge is getting people to the parks
- Need to educate folks on walkability (i.e., walking paths with distances and elevations). The 60th Avenue pedestrian route runs from the water to over the hill (and 405)
- Connect parks with safe walking trails, paths and sidewalks. People have to wander to find minor trails; they are hidden or unknown
- Woodlands Park & Mark Twain Park have parking issues
- South Rose Hill - Rose Hill Meadows Park has parking issues; needs designated parking off the main thoroughfares
- Market Neighborhood Association has some pedestrian safety and access concerns. Connectivity is a concern, especially near Juanita Beach near the old Jack in the Box
- Waverly Beach has minor drive with no turn-around or parking
- Need restrooms and basketball at Heritage Park
- Citywide, we need another multi-use community center
- Finn Hill Neighborhood Association has 15,000 residents, but is underserved. O.O. Denney is down a little road; Big Finn Hill is nice and large, but it is a county property and has connectivity/safety issues across Juanita Drive. The neighborhood needs more playgrounds and parks within a 1/4 mile

5-Year Look Forward: What is needed?

- More off leash areas and better enforcement of places and signage where dogs can/can't be off leash and for waste pickup. Jasper Dog Park is wall to wall dogs. City needs to get in front of the off leash issue (re: enforcement, waste, kids intimidated) [Michael Cogle mentioned that off leash areas may be considered as part of future master plans for new parks, such as in the planning process for Edith Moulton Park. There is less interest in trying to locate off leash areas within existing developed parks.]
- Regarding trails, it would be nice to have separated sections for cyclists and walkers/runners
- Mountain bike skills area - no park within Kirkland accommodates mountain biking. The wooded area of Ben Franklin School has a history of use for dirt bikes, but the area is degraded and highly compacted.
- Better connectivity - look for easements under power lines and over pipeline; connecting with them has been a challenge
- Signage - interpretive signs at Juanita Bay are nice and educate people about the site and wildlife. Consider adding more signage and historical information to celebrate places and people from the past
- Tie the downtown to Park Place

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- Consider a splash park (zero depth water fun) in the downtown area - possibly at Heritage Park or Peter Kirk Park
- Covered parks - covers over playgrounds for more all-season use
- All-season turf fields - the community missed out with Lake Washington High School; they could do something about Juanita High when it is rebuilt
- Restrooms are needed at more parks
- Juanita Bay - restrooms closed in winter months, which is high time for birding season and counts to aid Audubon
- Garbage cans - maybe more reliance on pack in/out mantra
- There is no recycling at Everest Park

Communications

- Controversy is required to get people's attention
- Consider adding more kiosks, like the Everest kiosk; if available in different places, they could serve as a community message boards
- The City uses a lot of ways to communicate, maybe a bit too much - sometime we are inundated. Brevity in message is the key, then provide a link with keywords
- The City's list serves overlap; the NHAs get messages from the City liaison, plus individual departments
- Provide small, localized (neighborhood area or smaller) maps of nearby parks
- Not all parks have addresses; some are hard to find. Google doesn't even have it right; some parks with nicknames are also a challenge

What is different in Kirkland in 2035?

- We have a first class recreation center - multipurpose center with pool
- We have more connections to the water - water trails, swim lessons at public beaches, sailing club. Look at Meydenbauer Bay - club with kayaking and boating
- We have more active parks. In the future, there will be more units with small lots or no usable outdoor space. Provide more sport courts

Are there community activities your neighborhood has considered as a partnership project with the City?

- Parks are the community front porch - a basketball court could be that place where people gather; the City needs more outdoor courts
- Develop an improvement program that is neighborhood based. What can residents do and how to get approvals for work? Is there a list of work to be done for each park? Provide a way for neighborhoods to take ownership of small improvements.
- Rotary partnered with Starbucks for the shelter at Everest Park
- More shelters are needed. For neighborhood events, tent rentals consume the event budget. Shelters are income source for the City, but they need associated parking

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- Denneyfest - parking is an issue. O.O. Denney is down a narrow road; people park at Finn Hill Middle School and use a shuttle bus to get to the park for the event.

Recreation

- 'Wild teens of Finn Hill' - encourage kids to participate in live-action activities or tournaments (e.g., hunger games style competitions); Parkour classes
- It is a headache to drive around the region for year round swim lessons because the options are very limited within Kirkland
- Swimming is a safety issue - in the past, residents had access to St Edwards and now Juanita High School is threatened.
- Barefoot boogie - DJ in gazebo or park space for open dance
- Recreation programs can be a little pricey when you have several kids taking classes; do more with pass options or punch cards
- Spread out the recreation venues - use alternative locations (i.e., schools)

Where Should the City Focus Efforts for the Future?

- Plan and implement the Cross Kirkland Trail
- Providing all-season turf for ball fields for year-round play
- Another community center
- Provide an indoor pool
- An indoor and covered high activity area (i.e., covered playground)
- Easy walking access to parks
- Integrate the PROS Plan elements with other City projects and plans

Every effort has been made to accurately record this meeting. If any errors or omissions are noted, please provide written response within five days of receipt.

-- End of Notes --

cc: Michael Cogle
File



PROJECT NUMBER: #05-13-PK
PROJECT NAME: Kirkland PROS Plan

ISSUE DATE: June 6, 2013

RECORDED BY: Steve Duh
TO: FILE
PRESENT: Michael Cogle – Kirkland Parks & Community Svcs
Gail Schaffer - PKCC Advisory Board President
Jeanne Thompson - PKCC Advisory Board
Matt Kreitlow - Slow Pitch Softball
Tyson Wellock - WAVE Aquatics
Laura Caron - participant of North Kirkland Community Center
Laurene Burton - EvergreenHealth
Dave Wager - Senior Council
Linda Murphy – Kirkland Parks & Community Svcs
Steve Duh – Conservation Technix

SUBJECT: Stakeholder Session Meeting Notes: Recreation Program Users Groups (06/03/13)

Michael welcomed everyone and initiated the meeting. He thanked everyone for their participation and mentioned that the PROS Plan update will link with other city planning efforts underway this year, including the Comprehensive Plan, the Cross Kirkland Plan and other plans.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Steve provided a brief overview of the PROS Plan project and noted a set of questions that were the focus this session's discussion.

DISCUSSION / COMMENTS

General Comments

- I like that Kirkland has a small town feeling
- My involvement started through the Senior trips
- Crestwoods / Norkirk - park slide, I like that the City offers different types of experiences
- As newer resident to Kirkland, it's friendly but a bit difficult to meet people - programs offered allowed for development of friends and wider social circle
- Do more cutting edge things (i.e., Parkour games/course, teen art, ninja warrior obstacle course). Develop a scavenger hunt or geocaching program. Build an app to better inform people of what's available
- Downtown has great destination parks but no playgrounds for kids. Need more kid parks.
- Need more activities and spaces for teens and young adults. City offers a lot for young kids and adults/seniors.
- EvergreenHealth is starting to review a health needs assessment for the community. Physical activity and nutrition are major factors. Community gardens could be a strong linkage. Recreation programs allow the

Stakeholder Session Meeting Notes: Recreation Program Users Groups (06/03/13)

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community to participate in activities that lead to being healthier. Walking is a great exercise but it is unsafe in many places of the city.

Facilities

- Indoor recreation space is needed. Consider a community center with indoor vendors for social gathering; an indoor gym and running track. Totem Lake Mall may be a good site for center.
- Consider indoor small rides for kids and people with disabilities (i.e., swing that can accommodate a wheelchair)
- Need more places for walking. Kirkland is not a good running/walking city, since there are too few sidewalks and many difficult street crossings. Trails are good, but we need better access to them
- Kirkland loses folks to other places for ball fields and tournament play. Need a complex with 4 softball fields and overlay with soccer/lacrosse. Look at Everett/Renton/Lynnwood
- Crestwoods Park has ball field safety issues (outfield, foul line delineation, fencing, slope)
- The potential loss of Juanita High School pool is a serious issue for the community. WAVE Aquatics runs the pool via an agreement with LWSD and serves approximately 300 kids per month. WAVE provides swim lessons through competitive swim and aqua aerobics. The pending construction bond for LWSD and redesign for Juanita HS likely does not include a new pool. This would leave only the Kingsgate pool (semi-private) and Peter Kirk Pool (outdoor, 2-3 month) to serve the community.

5-Year Look Forward: What is needed?

- Senior Center is in good shape - has nice people, good staff and good programs (incl. senior law, tax assistance). Parking onsite is a challenge and detracts from coming here. Need more parking and need better enforcement. Add better signage.
- There is more evening use of the Senior Center, since the younger seniors are working during the day and may have prolonged their employment. During the daytime, it is mostly older seniors.
- City has no center for hosting larger events. Senior Center has only very narrow windows when it is not booked. Scheduling for a four day event extends out over the next year. A large recreation center could be such a venue for 250-400 people - could be in partnership between adjoining communities.
- WAVE Aquatics brings in close to 400 participants to the region for team and swim competitions. Link to local economic development, hotel rooms and need for pool space
- Provide more for teens (i.e., family dance at school with teen break dance performers from the teen center)
- Provide more marketing for what we have and for things happening. Look at the Seattlego website for ideas. Attend the Farmers Market, Sr Volunteer Fair and EvergreenHealth fair with an information booth/kiosk to market city services - have games for kids, flyers, program guides. Develop a mobile app - something to spark interests in finding local recreation facilities.
- Review the city's demographics against the programs offered and facilities to explore gaps in service.
- Consider a reader board on Main St. Install more location/directional signage to point people to parks and destinations.

Stakeholder Session Meeting Notes: Recreation Program Users Groups (06/03/13)

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- EvergreenHealth provides levy funds for senior center. Partnering with City to design community wellness program. Use social media platform to provide more information about health and wellness topics and activities.

Where Should the City Focus Efforts for Future?

- Advertise what you have and get more information out into community
- Indoor pool - all ages, therapy pool, zero depth entry, lap pool with cool water for competitions
- Large community recreation center - with aquatics and gym space
- Interactive social media platforms
- Safe environments to walk - don't sacrifice the notion of developing a broad, safe walking network for one big trail (Cross Kirkland Trail).

Every effort has been made to accurately record this meeting. If any errors or omissions are noted, please provide written response within five days of receipt.

-- *End of Notes* --

cc: Michael Cogle
File



PROJECT NUMBER: #05-13-PK ISSUE DATE: June 11, 2013
PROJECT NAME: Kirkland PROS Plan

RECORDED BY: Steve Duh
TO: FILE
PRESENT: Michael Cogle – Kirkland Parks & Community Svcs
Bridget Powers - Kirkland Boys & Girls Club
Alan Lofquist - Juanita Baseball Club
John Rudolph - Kirkland American Little League
Seth Andersson - Kirkland American Little League
Steve Lytle - Kirkland Lacrosse
Tim Mortimore - Lake Washington Youth Soccer Association
Bill Johanson - Juanita Baseball Club
John Bacon - Northwest University
Phil Lavesy - Kirkland National Little League
John Chadwick - Junior Softball World Series
Pauline Miller - Senior Co-Ed Softball
Glenn Beard - Kirkland Baseball Commission
Nesah Thomas-Schadt - Kirkland Parks & Community Svcs
Jason Filan - Kirkland Parks & Community Svcs
Steve Duh – Conservation Technix

SUBJECT: Stakeholder Session Meeting Notes: Parks Board (05/08/13)

Michael welcomed everyone and initiated the meeting. He thanked everyone for their participation and mentioned that the PROS Plan update will link with other city planning efforts underway this year, including the Comprehensive Plan, the Cross Kirkland Plan and other plans.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Steve provided a brief overview of the PROS Plan project and noted a set of questions that were the focus of this session's discussion.

DISCUSSION / COMMENTS

League Overviews

- LWSYA: 7,000 players in league overall, with 700 in Kirkland; participation rates have been flat over the past few years; the boy/girl ratio has been even
- KNLL: 450 players in league, and there has been a slight decline in recent past; Softball is generally one-quarter of the league; their region is north Kirkland
- KALL: 720 players in league; their region is south Kirkland
- Senior Co-Ed Softball: has 10-12 teams and they play on Mondays & Wednesdays at Crestwoods Park
- City Recreation: Softball enrollment has been down last four years; Pee Wee soccer has been growing
- Lacrosse: 250 boys on 11 teams; the league has been running for only 3 years; the league built field at Big Finn County park; there will likely be a split in the league coming in future into two groups of 175-300

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players each. No girls are served yet in the league; if that league starts, it would have an additional 400 girls and would be significant new demand for field space

- Junior Softball World Series: 10 teams
- KNLL & KALL have approximately 20% softball and 80% baseball; 100% Kirkland residents; 72 teams, ages 4-12, softball to 16 yrs old; Kirkland LL plays at Kirkland Middle School or the Lee Johnson field; there is a need for fields for practice
- Juanita Baseball: 100 players, 3 teams, under 17 years old, mostly Kirkland residents; the league is an outgrowth of KNLL - it is north Kirkland centric and aims to develop players for Juanita High School; it is an American league team and the home field is Juanita High School; the season starts at the end of the high school season - Memorial Day through early July
- Boys & Girls Club has a field onsite; it has 200+ players in its Junior Football program (tackle); the Club uses school fields at Lake Washington High School and Juanita High School for games and use junior high school fields for practices

School District Facilities & Relations

- Lake Washington School District has hard fields in poor condition; there is a lack of agreement on field improvements
- Need a better master agreement with Lake Washington School District, especially since the District can't afford to maintain their fields
- The change from middle schools to junior high schools has led to a reduction in school sports; this has created a trickle down with increasing demand for youth sports. Finn Hill and Kamiakin merged leagues; 7th and 8th graders are not being well-served; there is a need to reintroduce Pony and Junior leagues
- Finn Hill Junior High baseball infield unsafe; Kamiakin fields are being reclaimed by nature

Field Inventory & Maintenance

- Overall field inventory - Kirkland city parks look great; Lake Washington School District needs to transfer to city parks the field maintenance and scheduling to control usage;
- Kirkland doesn't have ability to do tournaments due to the lack of fields or a complex
- Regarding soccer fields, there is one at Crestwoods Park and others at the middle schools, but school fields have holes and ruts and are generally unsafe. LWSD is out of money
- Juanita Beach Park - field is good for younger kids, but bigger kids hit it too far
- 132nd Square Park - same issue
- Crestwoods and Everest as tournament fields
- High level players are doing practices on elementary school fields
- There are no fields suitable for 10+ year old or Junior level players
- LWYSA uses web-based scheduling of fields; the City stopped watering Spinney Homestead Park and it is hard to play [Note: with passage of the Parks Levy, funding for irrigation for this site has been restored]
- Field fees - KNLL pays approximately \$23,000 in rental payments to King County; Pony league can't afford additional field fees

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- Lake Washington School District locked up fields to avoid paying custodians

Field Needs

- Turf surfacing - look at Sammamish and Bellevue; field rentals is a charge for use (pay to play).
- Kirkland needs turf fields to help avoid rain outs and for better field safety; explore the capital expense versus the operations and maintenance costs; it is different for turf fields. Turf fields are always rentable. Turf fields can accommodate a portable pitcher's mound and multiple pegs for different base line lengths.
- Crestwoods Park field #2 has lip at outfield which is dangerous and causes balls to pop up; it also has foul line, slope, and fencing issues to navigate
- Girls lacrosse is an upcoming program and will have capacity impacts; overall need would be for four turf fields for spring for boys and girls lacrosse, and they still would need practice fields in other areas.
- Kirkland is an older city with limited open spaces and vacant lots; it is hard to piece together large enough parcels to aggregate for a large sports complex
- New growth will occur in north Kirkland; the Kingsgate area now has many seniors, but younger families with kids are moving in
- As a long-term option, re-look at Seahawks facility at Northwest University; it has zoning/use issue to overcome
- Two years ago there was a field study completed as part of the preparation for the parks levy - see Michael Cogle for study/report. One option was to expand Lee Johnson for year-round usage for soccer, lacrosse and baseball

Other Comments

- Look at Northshore Soccer / Woodinville as example - Woodinville youth soccer field became little league and soccer field; \$5.8 million invested with \$3.5 million coming from the soccer club
- Marymoor is another example - multi-sport fields, partial turf (i.e., turf infield, grass outfield)
- I-405 is a divider - football is split by freeway
- Field lighting - NIMBYs are the greatest challenge, lighting not necessarily desired since it enables play that is too late into the evening, kids need time to do homework
- Kirkland Baseball Commission is an affordable option for kids; it is a non-profit, and all funds raised go back into community; paid for and built scoreboards at Juanita Beach Park; KBC needs access to affordable fields to keep their program accessible to local youth; caution about equity and loss of leagues from charging for field use. Crestwoods Park lost leagues due to field quality (no fence, wonky lines)
- Scheduling - field allocation should be set by number of kids in the league and geography - scheduling needs to be a give and take; LWSD needs to release the maintenance of their fields
- Developer of Park Place Mall has considered swapping location of buildings in exchange for extra fields at Peter Kirk Park

Every effort has been made to accurately record this meeting. If any errors or omissions are noted, please provide written response within five days of receipt.

-- End of Notes --

cc: Michael Cogle



PROJECT NUMBER: #05-13-PK
PROJECT NAME: Kirkland PROS Plan

ISSUE DATE: June 11, 2013

RECORDED BY: Steve Duh
TO: FILE
PRESENT: Sue Keller, Chair
Shawn Fenn, Vice Chair
Sue Contreras
Ted Marx
Rick Ockerman
Kevin Quille
Adam White
Jennifer Schroder – Kirkland Parks & Community Svcs
Michael Cogle – Kirkland Parks & Community Svcs
Jason Filan - Kirkland Parks & Community Svcs
Steve Duh – Conservation Technix
Jean Akers – Conservation Technix

SUBJECT: Stakeholder Session Meeting Notes: Parks Board (05/08/13)

Michael introduced Steve Duh and Jean Akers of Conservation Technix, the consultants selected to help update the City's Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan. He reviewed the overall scope of work for the PROS Plan update and mentioned that the plan will link with other city planning efforts underway this year, including the Comprehensive Plan, the Cross Kirkland Plan and others.

The Board was asked for feedback on the current state and the future of the City's recreation programs and parks system.

DISCUSSION / COMMENTS

What memories do you want residents to keep of being in Kirkland?

- Happy faces of recreation; People enjoying their time in recreation; Pictures of father-daughter dances, doge ball
- Photos from turn of the century at Juanita Beach; Families playing and having fun - little league, taekwondo tournaments, playing at playgrounds; Heritage of good experiences.
- Parks are the community's front porch - places to congregate, to gather and create relationships; Connectivity with trails and without needing a car; Grounded in the community.
- Surprising them with something in a park; People interacting with others they might not otherwise; Interactions and relationships with staff
- Marine Park - its access to ice cream, beaches and baseball; Juanita Beach - history with beach house and cabins
- The best part of Kirkland is the parks; there is something for everyone; childhood memories; "timeless happiness" - where they loved their childhood, loved being in Kirkland
- Sports fields - there is a need for more field space, move into multi-use fields across sports venues; Marymoor as an example

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What's missing?

- Need more skateboard parks; more parks to fill the known gaps; indoor recreation space
- The limiting factors are acquisitions and funding; Can't find large enough land for needed facilities; Could facilities be leased - look at Totem Lake Mall. It could be a community hub, as economic development, as an "incubator" for re-invigorating commercial space. [Jennifer reminded the Board of the indoor facilities plan and that subsequent action toward the establishment of a new center will require a business plan, a cost/benefit assessment and a desirable location.]
- Consider opportunities for a cooperative, joint use venture; The Goat Hill homeowners association owns a small strip of land next to Juanita Beach Park; this could be used for a boat launch or for KDOG water access; There may be a concern about adjacent wetlands and ensuring their integrity with those uses.
- Seek partners in pursuing land acquisitions; indoor aquatic facility needs a partner to make economically feasible - look to Northwest University, Kenmore, Bothell, Woodinville, Evergreen
- There are significant neighborhood park gaps, especially in the annexation area; There is under-utilized city-owned property in the Finn Hill neighborhood
- Can more elements be added to existing parks, such as Parkour or exercise stations?
- More pea patches, edible forests, community gardens; demonstrate where food comes from.

What are other priorities?

- Hold true to the list of levy projects; the levy was sold on that list and we need to deliver on it
- Getting existing parks back to good condition and commit to the park maintenance included in the levy

What recreation opportunities are missing? What are the constraints?

- The City's programming is "best practice" and current; staff are great
- The only drawback is lack of space; there is a lot of demand - summer camps are full, swim classes are full
- Take advantage of water/lake context (i.e., stand-up paddle boarding)
- Find collaborations for more adult programs – currently limited due to facility inventory and school district priority for youth activities

How is community awareness about City programs and parks?

- In the annexation area, some people don't necessarily understand or comprehend all that is available; staff does a great job of promoting and communicating
- Need more equitable access to recreation programming
- Parks and Rec is on top of their game; it is the selling feature for the business community
- Levy success demonstrates community support of parks and its importance. We're moving at good, steady, thoughtful pace. Keep pace with good fiscal management and stewardship of resources

What are the key items to be incorporated into this Plan?

- Indoor recreation facility; Revitalize Totem Lake
- Balance - between recreation, natural areas, wetlands, parks

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- Dovetail neighborhood plans into planning process, although some areas have not yet been planned
- Consider easy/cheap tasks (low-hanging fruit) for immediate implementation (i.e., pea patches) and move slower for harder projects
- Staff has done well at finding the balance and being deliberate with easy/hard projects or moving fast/slow

Michael reminded the Board of the opportunity for joint planning and collaboration between this plan and other city projects. He referenced the upcoming Open House on June 8th from 10am to 2pm. He requested Park Board member participation.

Every effort has been made to accurately record this meeting. If any errors or omissions are noted, please provide written response within five days of receipt.

-- *End of Notes* --

cc: Michael Cogle